

## **PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA**

### **EMERGENCY MEETING**

**DECEMBER 16, 2009**

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in emergency session with the following members present: Chairman Nathan Peters, Jr., Vice Chairman Carmen L. McLemore, and Commissioners Bill Williams, and Warren J. Yeager. <Commissioner Billy E. Traylor was absent>

Others present were: Deputy Clerk Kari Summers, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier, Building Official Lee Collinsworth, Building Inspector George Knight, Emergency Management Director Marshall Nelson, Grant Writer Towan Kopinsky, Assistant Mosquito Control Director Mark Cothran, Planner David Richardson, and Public Works Director Joe Danford.

Chairman Peters called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m., E.T.

#### **FLOODING – LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY**

Emergency Management Director Nelson reported that the Apalachicola River at Blountstown is suppose to crest on Thursday, December 17, 2009, at 23.1 feet, stating that everything is completely saturated at this time. He reported that it is going to be hard to track in Gulf County unless there is a model to forecast how high it will get at Howard Creek, Willis Landing or the Chipola Cut-off. Emergency Management Director Nelson discussed some forecasts for the Apalachicola River near Blountstown from the National Weather Service. <Commissioner Williams entered the meeting at 3:05 p.m., E.T.> He reported that there is a low pressure system over the Gulf, stating that normally the heaviest rainfall is to the South, but the heaviest rainfall in this low pressure is to the North. Emergency Management Director Nelson reported that we should start receiving the rain around midnight on Thursday, and moving out by Friday afternoon, stating that the estimated rainfall is 3 inches. Emergency Management Director Nelson recommended that the Board declare a Local State of Emergency. Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously (4-0). Chairman Peters reported that Public Works Department started preparing sandbags this morning, stating that the Prison is assisting with this project. Commissioner McLemore discussed that the public needs to be cautioned to help themselves as much as possible, stating that residents in the flooding areas need to prepare. Upon inquiry by Commissioner Williams, Sheriff Nugent reported that the schools have an early dismissal on Friday. Assistant Administrator Hammond recommended closing the Sauls Creek Road at this time due to damages from prior flooding. Commissioner Yeager motioned to approve this recommendation. Commissioner McLemore seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously (4-0). Emergency Management Director Nelson requested the people in operations and the damage assessment team meet in the E.O.C. following the meeting. He recommended for the Board to recess this meeting until after the National Service Webinar meeting to be held

tomorrow at 2:30 p.m., E.T. Commissioner McLemore motioned to recess this meeting. Commissioner Yeager seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously (4-0).

The meeting did then recess at 3:20 p.m., E.T.

The meeting did then reconvene January 12, 2010, at 5:55 p.m., E.T.

Emergency Management Director Nelson updated the Board on the prior flooding issues throughout the County, stating that flooding was very minimal.

There being no further business, and upon motion by Commissioner McLemore, second by Commissioner Yeager, the meeting did then adjourn at 5:58 p.m., E.T.

**NATHAN PETERS, JR.**  
**CHAIRMAN**

**ATTEST:**

**REBECCA L. NORRIS**  
**CLERK**